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From the Pen of the Moderator:

A Look Back and to the Future

Dr. Clay Nuttall, Moderator

In our recent annual conference at Sellersville, PA, we looked back over the ten years of IBFNA history. We had a marvelous time remembering and thanking those who led in those early years. Now it is time to look to the future. What does the future look like?

We have repeatedly demonstrated that we can handle challenge and controversy. Things that could divide us have repeatedly become our source of strength. I doubt if a year will ever go by without facing some challenge unless we come to a standstill. We are fully aware that some think the fellowship is in decline. Those who despised our beginning might rejoice if that were true.

The “naysayers” are all wrong. I believe that our best days are yet to come, and I am asking you to join me in working toward our 2001 conference in Williamsburg, VA to demonstrate the stature and strength of this wonderful group.

There are other fellowship groups at various levels. I attend some of them and enjoy the contact with men of like minds. The truth is, however, that I know of no fellowship like this one. The reasons are many, but the first would be the kind of organization we are.

The IBFNA is not controlled directly or indirectly by any group, denomination, school or movement. I do not know of any other group like that. In some fellowships if you do not follow a certain school or personality you can be a member, but you can't break the marble wall. You can pray and pay but becoming an effective part of developing the movement will never happen. I am not talking about being one of the “good ole boys.” It is about involvement in the ministry of that group.

This fellowship is far from perfect, but we have fought like everything for the equality of the brethren. There is a danger to this principle if we are not willing to listen to the average member in our fellowship who is able to step up to the plate and deliver his soul. Where else could you ever hear some of the good men who have preached in our conferences? The young men in our fellowship have constantly been included in ministry.

The future of the IBFNA depends on men and women who will exercise their soul liberty. If you have an idea, we are sincerely interested, and you are welcome to share it in a Christ-like spirit. We will give you an honest hearing, and if you convince us, we will stand beside you and speak for the same ideal.

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“Compromise is a denial of living faith (Gal. 2:20).”

PERSPECTIVES

Charismatic Happenings

Ralph G. Colas

The city of St. Louis has hosted many meetings. The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) was organized there in 1942. Some years ago the Roman Catholic Pope came to St. Louis for a massive rally. It was back in 1987 in this city that our fundamentalist World Council of Biblical Churches (WCBC) was organized to provide a voice for separatists around the world. However, this past June, nearly 15,000 gathered in St. Louis to celebrate an ecumenical-charismatic conference.

The North American Renewal Service Committee sponsored this conference. Included were charismatic Roman Catholics, charismatic Protestants and classic Pentecostals. The announced goals were to promote the charismatic movement along with ecumenical unity. A full-page story in a St. Louis newspaper related that there are 523 million adherents worldwide and about 55,000 join the charismatic movement each day. The article quoted Vinson Synan, the congress chairman, who asked, "Where else can you find the superintendent of the Assemblies of God, a Catholic archbishop, the leaders of the Four Square Gospel Church as well as the Toronto Blessing people talking at the same event? They will all be here singing 'Happy Birthday Jesus,' and we have room for 50,000 more." Synan added, "Some Fundamentalists do not like us, but Billy Graham, though not a Pentecostal, approves of us." (It causes me to wonder how many Charismatics were at the Amsterdam 2000 sponsored by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, July 28 - August 6, 2000). Synan is dean of Regent University School of Divinity, a graduate school with 2300 students in Virginia Beach, VA. The school's founder and chancellor is the Rev. Pat Robertson, a speaker at the congress in St. Louis.

During the daytime there were separate meetings of such denominations as the Episcopal, United Methodist and Roman Catholic churches. However each night they all joined in a unified meeting at the Trans World Dome. Many who embrace the charismatic teachings claim the Baptism of the Spirit causes them to fall to the ground as they are "slain in the spirit." And one author, Julia Duin, said that, "only in the last 40 years has the charismatic

movement moved from mostly blue-collar, fundamentalist, Pentecostal Churches to mainline Protestant and Catholic Churches."

This fall, October 24-26, the American Council of Christian Churches (ACCC) will be holding its 59th Fall Convention in Toronto, Canada. This is the city where the "fire fell" on the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church in 1994. This was accompanied by laughter, barking like dogs, howling like wolves and braying like donkeys. A major leader of the Vineyard Movement, Dr. John Wimber, before he died, asked the Toronto Airport leadership to disassociate themselves from the Vineyard denomination. The co-pastors of the Toronto Church, John and Carol Arnott, agreed to do so, but strongly asserted they would remain firmly "Vineyard" in belief and practice. The Arnotts at their church in Toronto have formed a network called "Partners in Harvest." More than 350 pastors from Southern Ontario, Canada, meet every Wednesday at the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship (TACF). TACF has at least 45 full-time staff members, 30 part-time staff members, and two large buildings near the airport with more than a \$6 million annual budget. More than two million have visited TACF since 1994.

Jack Deere has written a book in defense of the charismatic movement. It is *Surprised by the Voice of God*, published by Zondervan. Deere calls those of us who reject the charismatic movement, "Bible deists." He states that every Christian has the capacity to receive prophecy. He writes, "In order to fulfill God's highest purpose for our lives we must be able to hear His voice both in the written Word and in the Word freshly spoken from heaven." He puts extra-biblical revelation on the

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The Place To Be

P. W. Gustine



Everyone was blessed at our Tenth Annual Family Bible Conference, but I can tell you that for some forty or more of us there was great satisfaction at coming back to "Bethel." We have seen the whole decade of challenge, cost, prayer, and work. There was a great sense of accomplishment to be in the great auditorium of Bethel Baptist Church, Sellersville, PA, on Wednesday night with a huge crowd. The recipients of the "Watchman Awards" gave reminiscences of how we got from Regular Baptists for Revival to the IBFNA back at "Bethel." It was the place to be.

The "Watchman Awards" were an idea from the executive committee in keeping with our 10th Anniversary. Three of the brethren who contributed to the crucial book at our founding, *What Happened at Niagara Falls to the GARBC?*, have continued to challenge and give an

example in our fellowship. They have paid a price, and we wanted to honor them. We did this on Tuesday night with individual plaques. Each one reads—"Watchman Award, Presented to [name] at the 10th Anniversary of the IBFNA, June 20-22, 2000, Sellersville, PA. Isaiah 21:6, '... Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth.'" The name of the award was suggested by the preface in their book. Perhaps there will be others in the future that the fellowship will want to honor in this way.

The great meeting on Wednesday night continued with the music of heaven, the recognition of all the missionaries and evangelists present and the recognition of all the officers who have served the fellowship. We also presented a gift certificate for a



holiday at a bed and breakfast to Mrs. Sandy Everitt (pictured above) for her dedicated work for the fellowship in the Membership and Subscription Office at Sellersville.

Spiritual and honorable music contributed to every service. The song leaders were Jim Bishop, Charles Dear and Phil Gingery. The talented personnel from the local church and its school accompanied the congregational singing on organ, two concert pianos, and a Clavinova. There were solos on piano, flute, violin, and trumpet. There were several vocal duets—some by members of Bethel and some by Phil and Becky Gingery. Two of the daughters of Alan and Kathryn Brown offered a piano duet. A men's trio sang "Be Strong In The Lord." A brass ensemble did "Revive Us Again." From Bethel Baptist came the powerful *Harmony in Praise* ensemble of ten men. On Wednesday and Thursday nights the choir of Bethel Baptist Church sang (about 40 voices and our own Charles Dear). Evangelist Ken Lynch made the bells of heaven ring with his musical glasses. Evangelist George Zinn thrilled our hearts again with "Down from His Glory" and "It Is Well With My Soul."



Watchman Award Recipients
Harris, Brown, Colas

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Evangelist Ken Lynch
and his musical glasses

On Thursday afternoon the brethren attended three seminars presented by the following men:

- ***Preachers on Preaching***

by L. Duane Brown, Martin Massito, Richard Harris

- ***The Demise of Evangelicalism***

by Clay Nuttall, Ralph Colas

- ***Promoting Separation in the Local Church***

by Paul Gustine, Jeff Kistler

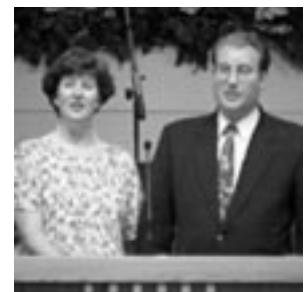
On Wednesday and Thursday mornings we met God together in prayer meetings lead by Dave Reinhardt and John Rink.

We will be indebted always to Dr. Richard Harris, the staff and members of the Bethel Baptist Church for their efforts, facilities and hospitality for this memorable conference. Besides many other things, they conducted a nursery, Daily Child Care at Hidden Meadows Day Camp, activities called Teen Tyme and



Family Time, a picnic on Wednesday afternoon (pictured above) at Hidden Meadows Camp with sports and swimming, hamburgers and hot dogs. Some members of the fellowship who brought everything together were Allen Harris, Jerry Johnson, Jeff Bailey and Charles Dear.

We had a business meeting on Thursday. Our finances are good. Future plans will be listed in the coming events. We tabled the amendment to our constitution until we can find the right wording to further implement our position on secondary separation. The three resolutions approved are printed throughout this issue. Our messengers to the ACCC are Richard Harris, Duane Brown, Russ Carnagey, Clay Nuttall, Kevin Colas, Tom Hamilton, Ray Taylor, Dave Norris and Jerry Huffman. The new IBFNA officers appear in the IBFNA Information section on page five.



Phil & Becky Gingery
ministering in song

As always, the main emphasis of our conference was the preaching of the Word of God. Here is a synopsis of the messages:

Standing Without Apology for the Truth
by Richard Harris

The example of Elisha provided a backdrop for the keynote address. Truth does not change because God does not change (Mal. 3:6). Truth must be defended at all cost (Ps. 94:16). Truth identifies where we should stand. “Buy the truth and sell it not . . .” (Prov. 23:23).

Defending the Local Church
by Lloyd Streeter

Defend the Nature of the Local Church—What it is (Acts 2:41-47; I Timothy 3). Defend the Independence and Autonomy of the Local Church—What it does (Acts 6:1-7; 13:1-4; 15: 25; I Cor. 5; II Cor. 8:4). Defend the Future of the Local Church—What it will be (II Cor. 11:2; I Thess. 1:10; 5:4, 9; Tit. 2:13). Churches should be what God wants them to be, not what may be suggested from a survey of unsaved people in the community.

The Still Unknown God
by Scott Reeves

In Acts 17 Paul presents the true God to an ignorant society. He declared Him to be the Creator, Giver of All, Sovereign of All and Judge of All. Brother Reeves asked the question, “Is this God known in America?” We were challenged to take up the motivation and method of Paul to reach pagan America. Expounding on Paul’s motivation Brother Reeves found he investigated the culture around him (17:16) and was stirred. His method was personal, persistent (17:17), and preoccupied (17:18-21).

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A LOOK BACK AND TO THE FUTURE, continued

Perhaps you have a doubt about this. Then I invite you to get on your E-mail and write me at IBFNA-Moderator@ibfna.org. If you don't have E-mail write me at 712 Rivertree Lane, Winston Salem, NC 27103. In addition to this, I am going to ask you in our frequent family letters to jump into the middle of discussions that affect our future. Join in, because if you are a member, I am interested. In fact I am interested if you are just a friend of the fellowship.

Now let me turn your attention to our next project. This is the June 2001 conference at Williamsburg, Virginia. This will be one of the greatest we have ever held. Mark your calendar now, just as soon as you finish reading this *Review*. Help us build the future. Our theme is "Liberty." Without a doubt this is one of the best family vacation spots. The content of the meeting will be a blessing to every member of your family no matter the age. This is one conference where you will want to bring your pastor and church staff. Plan on bringing a bus full from your church. **NEXT YEAR IN WILLIAMSBURG!**

CHARISMATIC HAPPENINGS, continued

same level as the Bible! Marc Dupont, another promoter of charismatic practices, believes that, "When a spirit of revelation is upon you, you can go into a mall and discern whether a person is involved in adultery or homosexuality or suffering from child abuse".

When we trace the writings and statements of these charismatic leaders, we can only conclude it is nothing more or less than self-convinced individuals giving divine authority to their latter day prophecies. This charismatic practice of attributing their own impressions to the Holy Spirit is dangerous. It is like baptizing the unsaved who then trust that religious act to be sufficient to get into heaven instead of coming God's way, which rejects human works. God's word clearly teaches that salvation is by grace through faith plus nothing. God's Word reminds us to "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter 5:8). We must be careful lest people sitting in the pews of our churches turn aside from the Truth to embrace religious error even as at least 55,000 do every day of the year becoming part of the unbiblical charismatic movement.



Seminar attendees deep in thought

Defending the Great Commission

by Sherman Skeens

Some make the assertion that being a missionary is an anachronism in the modern world. Rather, it is obedience to the command of God (Matt. 28:18-20). The Commission of Jesus Christ is great in four ways—great in evangelism (Acts 2), organization (Acts 13-14), edification (Acts 14:21-22) and authority. The last point is the secret of the Great Commission. In Acts 14:27, “...they rehearsed all that God had done.” Obedience to the Commission will result in the planting of churches with saved, baptized and growing believers.

Is Everyone a Separatist?

by Mike McCubbins

Mike defined separation. It is an act. God divided light from darkness (Gen. 1:4; I John 1:5). It is a process. Abram separated from Lot (Gen. 13:1-7). It is a condition. The gospel divides the saved from the lost (Gal. 1:6-9). It is a place. Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan (Gen. 13:12). Separatists have landmarks in a Biblical statement of faith and Biblical practices. It is a division. The separatist and the compromiser are on two different roads (Amos 3:3). At the core, separation is knowing what God is like. Though there are costs in separation, there are also rewards—freedom (II Cor. 3:17; Gal. 5:1; I Pet. 2:16), special relationships (II Cor. 6:14-7:1), and special friendships (Phil. 1:5-7).

The Gospel of Expediency

by Tom Nieman

Brother Nieman lamented the pragmatic practice and loss of standards for obedience in neoevangelicalism. Biblical examples show that God opposes such pragmatism, and the preaching of the gospel changes lives. Our preaching must defend against the errant theology of “the gospel of expediency.” This theology has a low view of God, His Word, His plan and His power. Psalm 78:41 speaks of the monstrous crime of limiting God. This theology also has a wrong view of man. I Corinthians 2:14 tells us that people who need the gospel are unable to make heaven

on their own. Tom closed by exhorting us to finish like Paul (II Tim. 4:1-8) and not to adopt the popular pragmatism. Pastor John Kain was cited as one who left this example in recent years.

Defending of the Gospel around the World

by Nestor Mercado



McCubbins and Mercado
preach the Word in English and Spanish

It is God’s presence that gives the power and the will to do the gospel work (Phil. 2:13). Men like Paul defended the gospel (Phil. 1:27). The gospel is defended by the fellowship of the brethren (Phil. 1:5). One important area is the support of missionaries by local churches (Phil. 4:15). Today much church money is in the wrong hands. Churches should fellowship with the truth and support the separated defenders of the gospel. The gospel is defended in combat (Phil. 1:27). Dignity and firmness of spirit is required of the gospel messenger in this combat. Join together in the combat and also honor those who have battled for the gospel.

A Confused Message from a Deceitful Church

by Tom Hamilton

Pastor Hamilton called attention to the warnings of II Cor. 11:1-4 and Matt. 7:15-16. Then he analyzed many modern churches as being custom-made from many parts—some from questionable sources. These parts include a message with a counterfeit gospel and substitutes for Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The IBFNA is needed to continue to declare the truth. A previously distributed poem “The Word of God Is,” was read. The Word gives us keys to discern the deceitful churches—covetousness (II Pet. 2:3, 15), pride of academics (II Tim. 4:3-4), sham godliness that is only a show in a crowd (II Tim. 3:5), and the blending of the dispensations (II Tim. 2:15). Our defense is a delight in the Word of God and a demonstration in deeds as a doer of the Word (Psalm 1).

Compromisers Without Excuse

by Ralph Weer

Romans 1:19-20 declares that all men are “without excuse” for not acknowledging the true and living God. Likewise believers who compromise the Word of God in doctrine or practice are “without excuse” in their disobedience. In this respect compromise is “a surrender of what you once stood for or believed” and “a shameful and disreputable concession.” Compromise is a denial of living faith (Gal. 2:20). Examples of compromise were cited from the history of Adam, Moses, Abram, David and Peter. Those who did not compromise were Joseph, Daniel and his three friends. Why do God’s people compromise? Suggested answers were pressure, lustful desires and temporal profit or gain. Those who do not compromise keep their eyes on the rewards of faith (Heb. 11:8-12).

The Message and Method of the Gospel

by Jeff Bailey

Jeff expounded II Corinthians 4. In verse one, “ministry” speaks of the calling of God, the privilege to stand behind the pulpit. To avoid the pitfalls of pragmatism, verse two defines this error by the terms, “dishonesty” (political maneuvering), “craftiness” (the end justifies the means philosophy), and “deceitfully” (falsifying the message and mishandling the Word of God). Jeff suggested a practice of having more apprenticeships in our churches to prove young men called of God. The need of the hour is to exalt the pulpit ministry (“manifestation,” verse two). The need of the unsaved is found in verse three. The content of the message is in verses four through six. Christ Jesus the Lord must be emphasized and not the power of any human personality. Finally, ministry must be dependent on God’s power (verse 7). This was illustrated by the victory in II Chronicles 20:17, 20-22. This power does not just come through symbolism as when Israel trusted in the Ark like a “rabbit’s foot” (I Samuel 4:1-11). The power of God comes upon those who meet the conditions of consecration and separation (I Samuel 7:3).

Separatists United

by Charles Dear

The outgoing moderator reminded us of the words of Benjamin Franklin to the Continental Congress urging the passage of the *Declaration of Independence*, “We must hang together or we shall hang separately.” Likewise fundamentalists face great risk in the 21st Century by isolation. Daniel’s three friends gave a model for unity in the defense of the gospel (Daniel 3). They were men of

Editor's Clipboard

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Rev. James (Min. of Chr. Ed.) & Una Wendorf (page 40)

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Pastor Jeff & Mrs. Marguerite Kistler (page 37)
jdkist1@email.msn.com

Information on CIBI mentioned on last page:

Greetings in the Name of the Lord. CIBI 2000 is going to be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, November 16-18, 2000.

The total cost of the Annual Conference is \$36 per person, which includes lodging and all food. [It might be worth going just for the food at that price!—Editor, *The Review*] The site of the conference is outside of Montevideo, near the Carrasco International Airport. You need to bring sheets, blanket and pillow. The bedrooms are for four persons with warm water, bathroom, etc.

More information will be coming. God bless you, Carlos A. DiLeo, Moderator, Hebrews 6:10.
dileomis@adinet.com.uy

Resolution on The Defense of the Gospel

WHEREAS Bible-believers down through the ages have been obedient to the Word of God in earnestly contending for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Philippians 1:7,17,27; Jude 3), and

WHEREAS separation is a clear principle of Scripture, practiced by all who believe and were obedient to the fundamentals of the Faith, and

WHEREAS fundamental Baptists are known for their separatist positions, whereby they do not fellowship with apostates or those who compromisely fellowship with them, and

WHEREAS separation may be defined according to the Scriptures as:

1. The Mark of God's Holiness, whereby believers are separated unto the Lord (I Peter 1:16), bearing His name as a redeemed Christian (I Peter 1:18), believing and obeying His Word as a necessity for His service and our blessing (Psalm 1:1-3; John 15:5,7), being fruitful in proclaiming His Gospel, and militantly standing in defense of His Word against all unbelief and compromise (Psalm 97:10; Ephesians 5:11).
2. Personal Separation, whereby a believer is in the world, but not of the world, having no friendship with it (James 4:4), no favor from it (John 15:18-21; I John 3:1,13), no fellowship nor affiliation with it (II Corinthians 6:14-17).
3. Ecclesiastical/Corporate Separation, whereby the Body of Christ, His Church, exercises discernment by identifying apostasy and fellowship with apostasy and unbelief so that it may be reproved (Ephesians 5:11), rebuked (11 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9-16), and rejected (II John 9-11; I Corinthians 6:17; Galatians 1:6-9; II Timothy 3:5).
4. Political Separation, whereby the things that belong to Caesar are rendered unto Caesar and those things which are God's are duly rendered unto Him (Luke 20:25; John 18:36; John 17:12-16; Philippians 3:20), which separation has been purchased at great cost to our Baptist forefathers here in America, who won our First Amendment freedoms so that no state church would be established, nor could government interfere with the doctrines and practices of churches.

WHEREAS separation, as defined above, must be consistently applied and practiced to be effective and has been the distinctive hallmark of this Fellowship over the ten years of its existence.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America, meeting in annual session at Bethel Baptist Church, Sellersville, PA, on June 20-22, 2000, do hereby reaffirm our agreement with the historical practice and position held by this Fellowship and with its doctrinal statements regarding separation and resolve to mark, separate from and preach against apostasy, wherever and whenever it may be found and at any cost to ourselves. Furthermore, we resolve to separate from unrepentant, disorderly brethren (II Thessalonians 3:6,14; Romans 16:17,18) who persist in memberships, affiliations and fellowships (including evangelistic crusades, youth movements, missions agencies, etc) where their leaders and peers deny Bible doctrines and do not respect the Baptist distinctives we cherish and hold to be the truth, according to the Word of God. We further resolve to separate from brethren who persist in immorality (I Corinthians 5:10) or cause unnecessary divisions among the brethren (Romans 16:17,18; Titus 3:9-11).

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we will guard our churches and ministries against the compromise of attempting unscriptural means to achieve God glorifying ends, whereby principle is sacrificed for expediency and pragmatism becomes the governing rule over our ministries. Furthermore, we pledge to strive for a consistent and coherent testimony for our churches and ministries, whereby there is no question to either our brethren or to the unbeliever as to the things we hold to be true from God's Word.

Resolution on Mormonism—A non-prophet religion

WHEREAS God's Word declares, "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John: 9), and

WHEREAS the president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), Gordon B. Hinckley, recently made a statement regarding Jesus Christ in which he said, "The traditional Christ of whom they [professing Christians] speak is not the Christ of whom I speak. For the Christ of whom I speak has been revealed in this the Dispensation of the Fullness of Times. He together with his Father, appeared to the boy, Joseph Smith, in the year 1820, and when Joseph left the grove that day, he knew more of the nature of God than all the learned ministers of the gospel of the ages" (Church News, June 20 1998 p7), and

WHEREAS Hinckley has clarified that Bible believers and Mormons believe in two different and distinct Jesus'. Our Jesus is the Eternal God while the Jesus of Mormonism is altogether different. Among Mormonism's peculiar and non-biblical features for Jesus are:

1. He was sired by the "heavenly Father" as his first-born son in the premortal realm.
2. He is the elder brother of Lucifer and of all human beings.
- 3 He was married to Mary and Martha, per much traditional Mormonism.
4. He endured "suffering the atonement" principally in the Garden of Gethsemane, to guarantee immortality for everyone.
5. After his resurrection he visited the Western hemisphere and proclaimed his "gospel" there.

WHEREAS when Hinckley was challenged by a Baptist leader about the 'Jesus' question, LDS spokesman Mike Otterson said, "We believe that we have more information on the life of Christ than the Christian community already has. That does not mean that we don't embrace the New Testament account." It would appear the Latter-day Saints want to, deceptively, have their cake and eat it too!

WHEREAS the 'Jesus' of Mormonism has declared everything that the Bible teaches, and hence what we believe about Christ, to be an abomination; this 'Jesus' of Mormonism is the enemy of Christianity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America, meeting at Bethel Baptist Church on June 20-22, 2000, do hereby without any mental reservation, declare Jesus Christ to be the Eternal God and our Saviour who paid the price in full for our sin. As the Eternal One crucified and risen, Christ and Christ alone gives us eternal life.

We also issue a warning to God's people to beware of the attempts of Mormonism to lead millions astray and also to be discerning of Mormonism's insidious advertising via the media even going so far as to offer a free copy of the KJV of the Bible. **MORMONISM, WHICH PREACHES A FALSE CHRIST AND DECEIVES MANY, IS A CULT THAT IS OUTSIDE THE REALM OF CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST.**

Mormonism is a non-prophet religion that honors Joseph Smith rather than our precious Lord Jesus Christ.

Resolution Against ‘Identificational Repentance’

WHEREAS in recent years, a practice known as “identificational repentance” has become popular which is the practice of individuals or groups who had no responsibility, authority or adequate knowledge repenting for someone else and asking forgiveness for them, and

WHEREAS this practice has been adopted by the current sitting pope when he ‘repented’ for the past “excesses of the Inquisition” by Catholicism without even condemning the atrocities of the Inquisition as a whole, and

WHEREAS though it may fit into the theological inconsistencies of the Mormon mindset which allows for the baptism of the living to secure an atonement on behalf of the dead, it has no place in the Biblical theology of the Fundamental Christian, and

WHEREAS no one may efficaciously repent for someone else but we must all stand before the Thrones in either our own sins or in the imputed righteousness of Christ, and

WHEREAS though it may behoove one to repudiate the sins of one’s fathers, there is no advantage to repent on their behalf since the original persons, in most cases, are long since dead and “it is appointed unto men once to die and after this the judgment.”

WHEREAS identificational repentance becomes, in effect, a mere smokescreen of false piety and pride and thus nothing more than non-sensical word play designed to placate the conscience.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America meeting in its tenth annual conference in Sellersville, Pa., on June 20th through the 22nd in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ 2000, hereby calls upon faithful Christians to acknowledge the hypocrisy of “Identificational Repentance” and personally to stand in the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ alone. May we humbly repudiate the sins of our fathers and purpose to learn from the error of their ways. May we in addition cleave to the truths of the Holy Scriptures that they embraced and purpose to stand on their shoulders with even greater clarity as we seek to win souls for Christ and to disciple believers in the Way of Christ.

THE PLACE TO BE, continued



conviction. They demonstrated personal separation (Daniel 1:6-8). They faced testing with confidence in God’s Word (Daniel 1:12). They were also men of prayer (Daniel 2). In Daniel 3:1-7 the issue is the state imposing worship. The world, we know by the prophecies in the Bible, is moving toward the church of Anti-Christ (I John 4:1-3). Will you bow down? Be prepared to stand-alone. However, what an encouragement to have the IBFNA! Daniel’s three friends raised up a great testimony for God. They were ordinary men with an extraordinary God. The honor of God is at stake. Defend the gospel! Adapting Ben Franklin, Chick charged us, “You have a fellowship if you can keep it. May God keep the IBFNA.”

Our 10th Anniversary Conference reminded us that “the place to be” is standing for truth, living for God’s approval, remaining faithful in preaching the gospel of the grace of God, building local churches to the glory of God, and watching and waiting for our God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Home With His Savior

• Missionary Don Dove •

June 22, 1937—March 31, 2000

by Paul Conner, Representative, PARBC

Don Dove gave his all to the Lord right up until the Lord called him home. Don accepted Christ as his Savior when he was 12 years old.

The Lord worked on him for 4 years before Don accepted the calling to preach. To fulfill that calling, Don attended Piedmont Bible College in Winston Salem, NC. He not only completed his B.R.E. degree in the spring; he married Jo Ann on June 4, 1960. He also completed his Th.B. degree.

Don and JoAnn's first pastorate was served at Grace Baptist Church, Altavista, VA. Next was Grace Baptist Church, Hurricane, WV. After that, he was called to be the Director of Children's Home of Union (Rescue Mission) in Charleston, WV. In 1968 Don and JoAnn began their pioneer work in Port Washington, WI, which eventually was brought to self-supporting, and then Murrysville, PA. Next they became involved with a rescue work in Hamlin, NY.

God used Don in a mighty way throughout his ministries. He has three men from his Port Washington work now serving the Lord in ministry. And, there are four young men in training for the Lord's work.

Don served for many years as Chairman of the Continental Baptist Mission Field Council. He also served several terms as Missionary Representative to the CBM Main Council. While in Wisconsin he served on the Council of Eighteen.



In 1995, with much prayer and research, including some surveys, the Lord led Don to plant a church in Hellam, PA. He knocked on thousands of doors, passing out tracts and invitations to Hellam Baptist Fellowship. Some of his supporting churches sent teams and youth groups to assist in the canvassing. Regardless of the challenge, he never let up, for he knew the Lord was in it, and God's grace and strength would always be there.

There was never a doubt where Don stood on the issues of the day. He loved his Lord, and he loved the Word of the Lord. He was clearly a fundamentalist who was always ready to witness for Christ, and to defend the faith for the cause of Christ. Because of his position on separation, Don counted it a blessing to be a part of the Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America. His discerning heart had become very concerned with the compromise he was seeing creep into places it had never been before. Yet he determined in his heart to stand steadfast in the Word of the Lord to the very end.

Don and Joann were blessed with two children – Philip and Beth. They have four grandchildren.

As it was said, Don served His loving Lord right up to his being called to Glory. Don had gotten very weak with cancer, but so desired to teach his people at Hellam that prayer meeting was brought to his home. What a blessing this was to his people, family, and friends. He is surely missed.

Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America

Membership & Subscriptions
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IBFNA Coming Events

September 26, 2000, Eastern Regional Conference, Kendall Park Baptist Church, Kendall Park, NJ,

Host Pastor: Dan Brown, 732.297.4644, kpbishop@aol.com

Speakers: Pastors Jeff Bailey, Paul Gustine, and Tom Hamilton

October 8, 2000 (tentative), Mid-West Regional Conference, Red Oak, IA, Host Pastor, Gary Walters,

gbcflock@heartland.net

June 19-21, 2001, Annual Family Bible Conference, Williamsburg, VA

Theme: *Liberty*

IBFNA Members are invited also to attend:

October 24-26, 2000, Annual Conference, American Council of Christian Churches,

Free Presbyterian Church, Toronto, Canada; Pastor: Dr. Frank McClelland, 416.297.6569;
Speakers include Dr. Ian Paisley, Dr. Bob Jones III and Rev. John Ashbrook

November 16-18, 2000, CIBI, Confraternidad Internacional de Bautistas Independientes,

Montevideo, Uruguay; Moderator, Carlos A. DiLeo, dileomis@adinet.com.uy
See page seven for more information.